UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION
ON THE LAW OF THE SEA

SPLOS

MEETING OF
STATES PARTIES

Distr.
LIMITED

SPLOS/L.12
24 May 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

MEETING OF STATES PARTIES
Ninth Meeting
New York, 19-28 May 1999

DECISION ON ADJUSTMENT OF THE REMUNERATION OF MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE LAW OF THE SEA

1. In regard to the level of remuneration of the members of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea ("the Tribunal"), the fourth Meeting of States Parties decided on the principle of "maintaining equivalence with the remuneration levels of judges of the International Court of Justice".[1]

2. The General Assembly, in its resolution 53/214 of 18 December 1998, set the annual salary of the judges of the International Court of Justice at US$ 160,000. In the light of that decision of the General Assembly, the Tribunal requested the Meeting of States Parties "to consider an adjustment to the maximum annual remuneration of the members of the Tribunal to reflect the revision in the emoluments of members of the Court".[2]

3. After considering the request of the Tribunal and taking note of the budgetary implications as set out in document SPLOS/WP.10, paragraph 7, the Meeting of States Parties decided to approve an adjustment of the maximum annual remuneration of the members of the Tribunal to the level of the emoluments of the members of the International Court of Justice established in General Assembly resolution 53/214, that is, $160,000, effective 1 January 2000.

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[1] SPLOS/WP.3/Rev.1, para. 17.

[2] SPLOS/WP.10, para. 6.

99-15234 (E) 240599

UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION
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SPLOS

MEETING OF
STATES PARTIES

Distr.
LIMITED

SPLOS/L.13
27 May 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

MEETING OF STATES PARTIES
Ninth Meeting
New York, 19-28 May 1999

DRAFT DECISION PROPOSED BY THE PRESIDENT RELATING TO THE BUDGET OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE LAW OF THE SEA

The ninth Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea requests the Registrar of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea to present to the tenth Meeting of States Parties a final performance report on the use of the budget appropriations for the year 1998 and a preliminary performance report on the use of the budget appropriations for the year 1999.

99-15779 (E) 270599

UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION
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SPLOS

MEETING OF
STATES PARTIES

Distr.
LIMITED

SPLOS/L.14
27 May 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

MEETING OF STATES PARTIES
Ninth Meeting
New York, 19-28 May 1999

DRAFT DECISIONS ON BUDGETARY MATTERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE LAW OF THE SEA FOR 2000

1. The Meeting of States Parties approves the budget of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea for 2000, amounting to $7,657,019, as set out in annex I to the present document, together with the staffing table for the Registry of the Tribunal in 2000, as contained in annexes II and III. The Meeting takes note of the fact that most of the budgetary increase in 2000 over the level of 1999 is owing to the move to the new premises of the Tribunal in 2000 and the operation of the premises.

2. With a view to providing the Tribunal with the necessary financial means to consider cases, in particular those requiring expeditious proceedings, as they are submitted to the Tribunal in 2000, the Meeting further approves an amount of $679,364 in 2000 as contingency funds of the Tribunal. The contingency funds shall be used only in the event of cases being submitted to the Tribunal.

3. The Meeting recalls that the eighth Meeting of States Parties approved the establishment of a Working Capital Fund for the Tribunal and that it provided on an exceptional basis for up to $200,000, to be credited to the Fund from savings, if any, from the 1999 appropriation. The Meeting approves an additional amount of $50,000 for advances to the Working Capital Fund of the Tribunal in 2000. The Meeting also decides that, on an exceptional basis, savings from appropriations in the budget for 2000, up to a maximum of $200,000, will also be credited to the Fund.

4. Without prejudice to the application of the provisions of article 19 of annex VI to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea in respect of future budgets of the Tribunal regarding the contribution to be made by the International Seabed Authority, the budget of the Tribunal in 2000, including its contingency funds in 2000 and the additional advances to its Working Capital Fund in 2000 amounting to $50,000, will be financed by all States and international organizations that are Parties to the Convention.

99-15785 (E) 270599

5. The contributions to be made by States Parties shall be based upon the scale of assessments for the regular budget of the United Nations for the corresponding financial year, adjusted to take account of participation in the Convention.

Annex I

Administrative expenses of the Tribunal for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2000

(in United States dollars)

Object of expenditure	1996-1997 budget	Approved 1998 budget	Approved 1999 budget	2000 budget
Recurrent expenditure				
Remuneration of judges	2 452 600			
Annual allowances	–	1 971 330	1 175 090	1 295 107
Special allowances	–	–	1 173 000	311 717
Travel of judges to meetings	–	250 000	240 000	240 000
Judges' pension scheme	–	–	29 167	16 666
Judges ad hoc and experts (including travel)	–	–	–	–
Established posts	2 050 000	1 794 688	2 197 700	2 413 725
Common staff costs	63 000	624 551	734 030	806 184
General temporary assistance	107 000	87 000	120 000	120 000
Overtime	24 500	20 000	45 330	45 300
Representation allowance	3 100	7 000	7 600	7 600
Official travel	150 000	82 000	82 000	90 200
Communications	53 900	137 000	151 000	151 000
Supplies and materials	46 600	50 600	70 000	85 000
External printing and binding	37 800	40 000	46 000	50 600
Temporary assistance for meetings	116 900	149 600	307 000	129 091
Maintenance of premises	143 400	140 000	125 000	350 000
Rental and maintenance of equipment	141 400	141 400	141 400	240 000
Hospitality	4 200	3 000	6 500	7 100
Special services (external audit)	–	3 000	13 000	15 400
Library - procurement of books and publications	–	60 000	60 000	60 000
Start-up costs of library	–	60 000	60 000	60 000
Miscellaneous services and charges (including bank charges)	2 900	6 000	50 000	25 000
Training	–	–	–	15 400
Security (contractual services)	–	–	–	137 135
Non-recurrent expenditure				
Hospitality (premises-related)	–	–	–	8 400
Furniture and equipment	–	–	–	–
Purchase of equipment	173 000	90 000	125 000	230 000
Purchase of special equipment	–	50 000	25 000	17 000
Total				6 927 655
Contingency	409 100	–	–	679 364
Start up	191 500	–	–	–
Working Capital Fund	–	–	–	50 000
Grand total	6 170 900	5 767 169	6 983 817	7 657 019

Annex II

Designations and staffing structure of the Professional staff of the Registry of the Tribunal for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2000

Level	Function	Number of posts	Standard costs (United States dollars)
ASG	Registrar	1	152 900
D-2	Deputy Registrar	1	143 000
P-5	Head of Administration and Management	1	108 900
P-4	Librarian	1	105 000
P-4	Head of Budget and Finance	1	105 000
P-4[a]	Head of Conference and Linguistic Services	1	105 000
P-4	Translator/Reviser	1	105 000
P-4	Legal Officer	1	105 000
P-3	Legal Officer/Information	1	75 900
P-3	Systems Administrator/Database Manager	1	75 900
P-2	Contributions Officer/Budget	1	73 600
P-2	Associate Legal Officer/Research	1	73 600
P-2[a]	Administrative Officer (Support/Building Management)	1	39 350
Upgrade Head of Conference and Linguistic Services[b]			3 900
	Total	13	1 272 050

[a] New post: premises-related needs.

[b] Upgrade one P-4 post to the P-5 level.

Annex III

Designations and staffing structure of the General Service staff of the Registry of the Tribunal for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2000

Level	Function	Number of posts	Standard costs (United States dollars)
Principal level			
	Administrative Assistant (contributions and accounts)	1	65 100
	Computer Systems Assistant	1	65 100
	Personal Assistant to the President	1	65 100
	Personal Assistant to the Registrar	1	65 100
	Administrative Assistant (general administration)	1	65 100
	Administrative/Building Coordinator[a]	1	45 175
Other level			
	Personnel Assistant	1	51 400
	Finance Assistant (Accounts Payable/Payroll)	1	51 400
	Senior Security Officer	1	51 400
	Information/Documentation Assistant	1	51 400
	Conference Services Assistant	1	51 400
	Secretary to Deputy Registrar	1	51 400
	Judiciary Support (Conference Typing Assistant)	2	102 800
	Pension/Tax/Social Security/Distribution Assistant	1	51 400
	Linguistic/Conference Secretary	2	102 800
	Security Officer/Driver	1	51 400
	Library/Documents Assistant	1	51 400
	Caretaker/Building Superintendent	1	51 400
	Receptionist	1	51 400
Total		21	1 141 675

[a] New post: premises-related needs.

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Distr.
LIMITED

SPLOS/L.15
27 May 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

MEETING OF STATES PARTIES
Ninth Meeting
New York, 19-28 May 1999

PENSION SCHEME REGULATIONS FOR MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE LAW OF THE SEA

Draft decision

1. The eighth Meeting of States Parties considered an item concerning a pension scheme for members of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, including a review of a draft proposed by the Tribunal entitled "draft pension scheme regulations for members of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea" (see SPLOS/31, paras. 37-40). The draft proposed was comparable to the Pension Scheme Regulations for Members of the International Court of Justice then in effect. The Meeting agreed that a pension scheme for members of the Tribunal should be established. It also decided to take a decision on the matter before the term of the first group of judges expires on 30 September 1999. It further noted that more time was needed for consultations between the Registry and the parties concerned regarding the applicability of the scheme of the International Court of Justice, particularly given the fact that the General Assembly might take a new decision with regard to that scheme. The Meeting also decided to include the item in the agenda of its ninth Meeting.

2. By its resolution 53/214 of 18 December 1998, the General Assembly approved certain amendments to the Pension Scheme Regulations for Members of the International Court of Justice. On the basis of those amendments approved by the Assembly and taking into account the views expressed during the consideration of this matter at the eighth Meeting of States Parties and the relevant decisions of the Meeting of States Parties governing the system of remuneration of members of the Tribunal, the Tribunal proposed revised draft pension scheme regulations for members of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (SPLOS/WP.7/Rev.1).

3. Having considered the revised draft, the ninth Meeting of States Parties approved it with the following amendments.

Article 1

Retirement pension

Paragraph 2

Subparagraph (a)

Replace has served a full term of nine years with has served for nine or more years

Subparagraph (b)

Delete the subparagraph

Subparagraph (c)

Replace has served for less than a full term of nine years with has served for less than nine years

Renumber the subparagraph as subparagraph (b)

Article 5

Definitions

Paragraph 1

Replace the paragraph with 1. "Member" means an elected member of the Tribunal in office.

Paragraph 2

Replace the total amount of annual, special and subsistence allowances with the total remuneration

Article 6

Miscellaneous

Paragraph 3

Replace article 4, paragraph 3 with article 1, paragraphs 3 and 4

Article 7

Application and effective date

Paragraph 3

Delete the paragraph

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LIMITED

SPLOS/L.16
27 May 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

MEETING OF STATES PARTIES
Ninth Meeting
New York, 19-28 May 1999

DRAFT DECISION PROPOSED BY JAPAN ON A MINIMUM ASSESSMENT RATE AND A CEILING RATE OF ASSESSMENT WITH REGARD TO THE BUDGET OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE LAW OF THE SEA

The Meeting of States Parties, recalling the provisions of article 19 of annex VI to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea in respect of budgets of the Tribunal, decides that the scale of assessment to be used for the budget of the Tribunal from the year 2000 shall be based on such a scale of assessments used for the regular budget of the United Nations, with a minimum assessment rate, a ceiling assessment rate and ceiling rates of assessment of the least developed countries Members of the United Nations.

99-15797 (E) 270599